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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/720,920	11/24/2003	Craig L. Reding	03-1024	5236
32127	7590	05/30/2006	EXAMINER	
VERIZON CORPORATE SERVICES GROUP INC. C/O CHRISTIAN R. ANDERSEN 600 HIDDEN RIDGE DRIVE MAILCODE HQEO3H14 IRVING, TX 75038			PATEL, HEMANT SHANTILAL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2614	

DATE MAILED: 05/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/720,920	REDING ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hemant Patel	2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1 (ll. 4) recites "receiving information on a communication device". It is not clear if it is meant to be "receiving information about a communication device" or "information at a communication device". The Office interprets it as "*information at a communication device*". Further it (ll. 6) recites "receiving a notification from the communication device at a server". It is not clear if it is meant to be "receiving a notification from the communication device located at a server" or "receiving a notification at a server from the communication device". The Office interprets it as "*receiving a notification at a server from the communication device*".

3. Claims 6, 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 6 (ll. 2) recites "receiving a user selection on the communication device of calling parties". It is not clear if it is meant to be "receiving a user selection on the communication device of (belonging to) calling parties" or "receiving a user selection of calling parties and receiving it at the communication device". The Office interprets it as "*receiving a user selection of calling parties and receiving it at the communication device*". The same applies to claim 7 (ll. 1-2).

4. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 8 (ll. 2) recites "receiving a user selection on the communication device of a preferred device". It is not clear if it is meant to be "receiving a user selection on the communication device of (belonging to) a preferred device" or "receiving a user selection of a preferred device and receiving it at the communication device". The Office interprets it as "*receiving a user selection of a preferred device and receiving it at the communication device*".

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-3, 5, 10, 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Aravamudan (US Patent No. 6,301,609 B1).

***Regarding claim 1***, Aravamudan teaches a method for providing a notification to a preferred communication device of a user, the user having a plurality of communication devices each having a communication channel, the method comprising:

receiving information on a communication device, the information indicating incoming data for the communication device (col. 9, ll. 13-15; col. 11, ll. 38-39, notification of received data);

receiving a notification from the communication device at a server (col. 9, ll. 19-22; col. 11, ll. 40-42, user selection given to server to forward data); and

transmitting the notification to the user's preferred device (forwarding data to packet or PSTN service connected device).

**Regarding claim 2**, Aravamudan teaches a method, wherein transmitting the notification to the user's preferred device comprises storing the notification in a database if the preferred device cannot receive the notification (col. 11, ll. 42-44, the user being busy on a preferred device may elect to forward the data to voice messaging system).

**Regarding claim 3**, Aravamudan teaches a method, comprising: selecting the preferred device from the plurality of devices (Fig. 1, items 142, 144, 146, 148, 150).

**Regarding claim 5**, Aravamudan teaches a method, comprising:

receiving a user selection on the communication device of a device for which notifications are to be transmitted to the preferred device (col. 11, ll. 35-45, user at the communication device redirecting communication for the same (a) device to some another preferred device connected to packet or PSTN service).

**Regarding claim 10**, Aravamudan teaches of an apparatus for providing a notification to a preferred communication device of a user, the user having a plurality of

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communication devices each having a communication channel, the apparatus comprising:

a communication device for receiving information indicating incoming data to one of a plurality of devices of the user (Fig. 1, items 142, 144, 146, 148, 150), the data being in the form of one of a plurality of data types (voicemail. Email etc.); and

a server (Fig. 1, item 160) for receiving a notification from the communication device and for transmitting the notification to the user's preferred device, the notification including an identification of the type of the incoming data.

***Regarding claim 14,*** Aravamudan teaches of an apparatus for providing a notification to a preferred communication device of a user, the user having a plurality of communication devices each having a communication channel, the apparatus comprising:

a communication device for receiving or generating data, the information being in the form of one of a plurality of data types (message from sending buddy's device); and

a server for receiving the data from the communication device (CSP with integrated Instant Messenger receiving data from sending buddy's device) and for transmitting the data to the user's preferred device (transmitting data to a preferred device as selected by the receiving buddy).

7. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wolff (US Patent No. 5,327,486).

**Regarding claim 13**, Wolff teaches of a method for providing a notification to a preferred communication device of a user, the user having a plurality of communication devices each having a communication channel, the method comprising:

receiving information on a communication device from a calling party calling one of the plurality of devices (col. 2, ll. 30-32; col. 6, ll. 11-16);

generating a notification corresponding to the received information (Fig. 3, step 44; col. 6, ll. 15, route call to me) and

transmitting the notification from the communication device to the preferred device to display a real-time notification (col. 5, ll. 29-37, the name and number of caller will be given in real-time with the call).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

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consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

10. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aravamudan as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Lee (US Patent No. 6,161,008).

**Regarding claim 4**, Aravamudan does not teach of receiving a user selection of a time period during which notifications are to be transmitted to the preferred device.

However, in the same field of endeavor, Lee teaches of user providing a selection of a time period during which notifications are provided to the preferred devices (col. 14, ll. 9-39).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Aravamudan to allow user to specify time period and corresponding device where he/she can be reached as taught by Lee so that the user does not miss expected important communication.

11. Claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aravamudan as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Brennan (US Patent No. 5,329,578).

**Regarding claim 6**, Aravamudan does not teach of receiving a user selection of calling parties from which notifications are to be transmitted to the preferred device.



However, in the same field of endeavor, Brennan teaches of user providing a selection of a list of callers whose calls (notifications) are transmitted to the preferred device according to the priority assigned to them (col. 5, Table 1.0, priorities for callers; col. 6, Table 2.0, priorities resulting in being directed to preferred devices).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Aravamudan to allow user to caller specific selection of destination devices as taught by Brennan so that important callers like Mom and family can always reach the user at any preferred device.

***Regarding claim 7,*** Aravamudan teaches of email and voicemail notifications that have date and time stamps as is well known in the art.

***Regarding claim 8,*** Aravamudan teaches of receiving a user selection of preferred device (device with instant messenger software) for receiving notifications based on calling party (buddy in the buddy list) (col. 6, ll. 18-27).

### ***Conclusion***

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Miner (US Patent No. 5,652,789) Network Based Knowledgeable Assistant

Schwartz (US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0147811 A1) Method And System For Facilitating Mediated Communication

Sladek (US Patent No. 6,718,178 B1) Automatic In-Line Messaging System

Hackbarth (US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0147777 A1) Apparatus  
And Method For Use In Portal Service For A Team Utilizing Collaboration Services

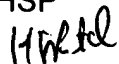
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hemant Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-8620. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on 571-272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hemant Patel  
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